Chapter 6 The Chick Hears the Caged Bird's Song (Part 6)

9 PM
HANAMURAZA
IKUTAROU-DONO, THIS WON'T DO AT ALL!
I HAVE FINISHED MY DUTIES FOR TODAY
AND I WISHED TO GO GET MORE NETSUKE
DON'T SAY THAT, JUST COME WITH ME.
WELL, I ONLY ASKED FOR YOUR HELP BECAUSE UKIHA-CHAN SAID YOU WERE " RELIABLE," YOU KNOW
TL NOTES: NETSUKE=SMALL WOODEN FIGURES
AM. AM I GOING TO CAPTURE UKKI'S HEART?!
COME ON, THIS WAY
TOUJUUROU-SAMA...
YOU ARE SO RELIABLE... I LOVE YOU
ドキィィ♡
EEEH?!
I-I-I-IS THAT TRUUUUUE?!

Ikutarou-kun... Why did you call for us all of a sudden?
My head still hurts from drinking last night ...
You!
How dare you treat me like some criminal!
Just what is it you want this time?! Why is there a policeman with you?!
Hi-hi-hi-his name is Toujuurou-san
And I just asked him to be a witness
Hmpf, some friend you've got there ...

THIS CASE IS
NOT OVER YET
IKUTAROU-SAN, I AM SORRY FOR ALL THE TROUBLE
THIS CASE WITH TOWAZOU-SAN CAUSED YOU
NO
EEH?!
10 AM KAIKAROU
WHAT DO YOU MEAN?

TOWAZOU DROWNED IN IT
EVEN THOUGH THE POND WAS ONLY WAIST DEEP
HE WAS KILLED?!
TOWAZOU-SAN'S DEATH WASN'T AN ACCIDENT?!
ON OPENING DAY, BEFORE THE CURTAINS WERE EVEN OPENED, THE INSIDE OF THE POND WAS LACED WITH POISON
WATER LEVEL UP
IF ONE WENT INTO THE POND WITH A HEAVY OUTFIT ON, THE WATER LEVEL WOULD RISE AND THE POISON WOULD DISSOLVE IN THE WATER.
THE POISON THEN PARALYZED TOWAZOU WHICH LEAD TO HIM DROWN.
IT ALL CAME TO ME WHEN I SAW YATSUDE-CHAN IN THE BATH.
THAT WAS EXCELLENT, NEE-SAMA!
BUT

IF THERE WAS POISON IN THE POND ON OPENING DAY
THEN WHY WAS HOURAI-SAN, WHO DID THE AFTERNOON PERFORMANCE, AND KOROKU, WHO WENT IN DURING REHEARSAL, COME OUT OKAY?
THE PERPETRATOR USED A LITTLE TOOL
スッ
A-A... A TOOL?! WHAT DID HE USE?!
ズズズ
HO-HO-HO-HOW DID HE DO IT?!
AND MADE IT SO THAT
ONLY TOWAZOU WOULD DIE
タス
GUOOH?!

CALM YOURSELF
KNOWING YOU, YOU SHOULD HAVE ALREADY "SEEN IT" ALREADY
IKUTAROU ...
OWOWOW
WHY DID YOU THINK I SENT YOU TO INVESTIGATE?
BEFORE, YOU WERE ABLE TO TELL RIGHT AWAY THAT THE SWORD I HAD WASN'T REAL BECAUSE IT DID NOT HAVE THE "WAVE PATTERN" THAT REAL SWORDS DO
AND IT WAS THEN THAT I WAS CERTAIN.
EVEN IF I WAS UNABLE TO LEAVE THIS PLACE, YOUR EYES WOULD BE ABLE TO "SEE" EVERYTHING AND NOT LET ANYTHING GO UNNOTICED ...
THAT'S WHY I CHOSE YOU

FUYOU-SAN SAW MY POTENTIAL
AND CHOSE ME!!
YOU HAVE THE PROOF
IN YOUR BOSOM, DON'T YOU?
!!
!
EH?
ペラ

I CANNOT BELIEVE IT... IKUTAROU-SAN...
YOU NOTICED EVEN THE SMALLEST THINGS
AND WROTE THEM ALL DOWN!!
...!!
KOROKU-SAN IN TOWAZOU'S ROOM
TENDING TO WRINKLES IN HIS OUTFIT
IT CAN'T BE, IS THIS IT?

THE PERPETRATOR
WAS THE SAME SIZE AS TOWAZOU-SAN.
EH?
ON THE NIGHT BEFORE TOWAZOU-SAN'S DEATH, THE PERPETRATOR SNUCK ONTO THE STAGE AND PUT POISON ON THE SIDE OF POND.
THAT'S RIGHT
NOW GO, IKUTAROU ...

TOWAZOU
? ? ?
? ? ?
AS SUCH, ONLY SOMEONE OF TOWAZOU-SAN'S SIZE WOULD BE ABLE TO MAKE THE WATER LEVEL RISE ENOUGH SO THE POISON WOULD DISSOLVE IN THE POND.
THE PERPETRATOR LOOKED IN ADVANCE TO SEE JUST HOW MUCH THE WATER WOULD RISE IF TOWAZOU-SAN WENT IN AND MARKED THE INSIDE OF THE POND WHERE THE POISON WOULD NEED TO BE PLACED.
I SAW THAT THE OUTFIT THAT WAS FITTED FOR HIM WOULD ALSO FIT KOROKU-SAN AS WELL... AND IF THAT IS SO
THAT'S RIGHT, BUT WHEN I "SAW" TOWAZOU-SAN'S OUTFIT IN HIS ROOM
YOU TALK ABOUT HOW BIG HE WAS BUT YOU NEVER EVEN MET TOWAZOU, RIGHT?
YOU JUST DON'T KNOW WHEN TO QUIT, DO YOU...
AND
EEH
I COULD SEE THAT THEY WERE ABOUT THE SAME SIZE.

WHA-?!
IF WE ARE ALL THE SAME SIZE, THEN WOULDN'T THE WATER LEVEL HAVE RISEN JUST AS MUCH IF WE WENT IN WITH OUR OUTFITS ON?
THEN, ISN'T SOMETHING WRONG HERE?!
BASED OFF WHAT I "SAW," I COULD SEE THAT HOURAI-SAN'S AND KOROKU-SAN'S HEIGHT AND WEIGHT WERE PRACTICALLY THE SAME AS WELL.
SINCE THIS PLAY ASKS YOU TO SLOWLY GO INTO THE POND
I BELIEVE IT WAS MORE THAN LIKELY BECAUSE... THE POISON WAS PLACED AT A HIGHER LEVEL THAN EITHER OF YOU TWO COULD REACH WHEN YOU WENT IN
THE PERPETRATOR DID NOT HAVE TO WORRY ABOUT ANYONE ACCIDENTALLY TRIGGERING THE POISON AND MAKING IT DISSOLVE IN THE WATER.
IF THAT'S SO THEN WHY WERE KOROKU AND I WHO WENT IN EARLIER COME OUT FINE
AND ONLY TOWAZOU DIED?!

I TOLD YOU ABOUT
THE SAWDUST I SAW ON ONE OF THE ROCKS THAT BELONGED TO THE "ICE," RIGHT?
HM?: BUT THEN, IF YOU THINK ABOUT IT ANOTHER WAY, WHY WAS THERE POISON IN THE POND ONLY WHEN TOWAZOU WENT IN?
WELL, THE PERPETRATOR USED "ICE" TO RAISE THE WATER LEVEL BEFORE TOWAZOU-SAN'S PERFORMANCE.
IT MAY SEEM HARD TO BELIEVE... BUT THIS WAS HOW THE PERPETRATOR WAS ABLE TO KILL TOWAZOU-SAN AND NO ONE ELSE.
WHICH MEANS THAT THE PERPETRATOR WAS THE ONE WHO WENT IN BETWEEN HOURAIONII-SAN AND TOWAZOU-SAN ...
WAIT, EH? THEN DOES THAT MEAN ...

KOROKU-SAN
IT WAS YOU

YOU CAN'T BE SERIOUS!!
I HEARD THAT YOU WORE A YUKATA DURING THE REHEARSAL BEFORE TOWAZOU-SAN'S PERFORMANCE.

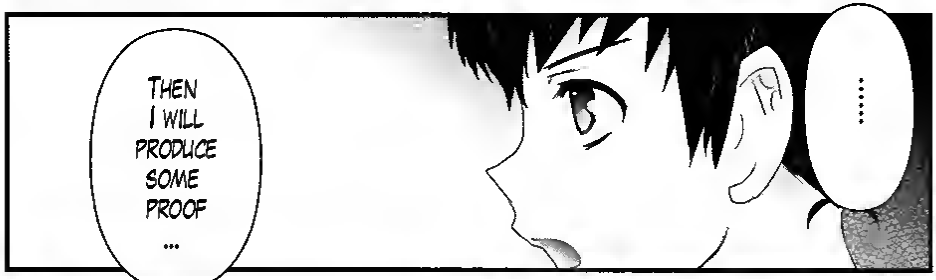
Now you are just making false accusations!
Unlike the outfit Towazou-san would wear, a yukata is light and thin so the water level would hardly go up at all when you went in.
I also heard that you went pale and became sick during the rehearsal.
I thought it was because of the poison in the pond but I was wrong.
It was because your body got chilled from all the ice you were hiding in your yukata, right?
I can't believe this
NO!
Why would I kill Towazou-san when I admired him so much?!
Do you have any idea how much trouble you caused?
Hourai-san...

BIG FAT LIAR!!
EH? ME?!
I WON'T LET YOU SAY SUCH IRRESPONSIBLE THINGS AGAIN!
YOU...
I GOT CALLED
A "LIAR" AGAIN...
ONII-SAN, CALM DOWN!
BUT
I CAUSED YOU TROUBLE WHEN I THOUGHT YOU WERE THE CULPRIT
AND FOR THAT I AM REALLY SORRY!

!
RIGHT NOW
I AM NOT SPEAKING IRRESPONSIBLY NOR AM I LYING!!
THIS IS NOTHING BUT THE ANSWER I CAME TO AFTER GATHERING CLUES...
AND HAVING HELP FROM SOMEONE WHO KEPT ME ON THE RIGHT TRACK!
FUYOU-SAN CHOSE ME BECAUSE SHE BELIEVED I COULD DO THIS
IF THAT'S SO, THEN I WILL ALSO
AND THAT ANSWER IS...
NOW GO, IKUTAROU

A SONG THAT ONLY I CAN SING!!
BELIEVE I CAN DO IT!!
GO AND SING YOUR SONG!!

I AM COMPLETELY INNOCENT!
YOU DON'T HAVE ANY PROOF, RIGHT?
YOU'RE ONLY USING YOUR IMAGINATION TO ACCUSE PEOPLE!
HE HAS SUCH A BEAUTIFUL, UNWAVERING GAZE!!
OH GOD!


THEN I WILL PRODUCE SOME PROOF ...
.....

I BELIEVE THAT THE CULPRIT USED A SIMILAR POISON TO PARALYZE TOWAZOU-SAN AND CAUSED HIM TO DROWN.
IT'S *FUSO POISON AND IT'S VERY DANGEROUS.
FUSO

JUST WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO?

WHAT IS THAT?

※ WOLF'S BANE

RIGHT NOW, THE WATER LEVEL IS AT THE SAME LEVEL IT WAS BEFORE ICE WAS PUT IN.
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ぺた
スッ…
びくっ
ALL RIGHT
I LACED THE MARK WITH POISON.
IS THIS WHAT YOU MEANT BY PRODUCING PROOF?
スッ…
WILL YOU GO IN TO PROVE YOUR INNOCENCE?
IF KOROKU-SAN IS NOT THE CULPRIT, THEN THIS IS A WAY TO PROVE HIS INNOCENCE.

WAIT!
THE WATER LEVEL IS TOO HIGH!
IF I GO IN, THE WATER WILL REACH WHERE THE POISON IS!
ARE YOU TRYING TO KILL ME?!
I NOW HAVE MY PROOF.
?
RIGHT NOW, SHOULDN'T YOU HAVE SAID
"WHICH ONE DID YOU LACE WITH POISON?"
I DID NOT SAY ANYTHING ABOUT LACING THE MARK ABOVE THE WATER.
EEH?!

UUU!
AMONG ALL THE MARKS I MADE, THE ONLY ONES WHO WOULD KNOW THAT THE REAL MARK WAS RIGHT ABOVE THE WATER WOULD BE ME... AND THE CULPRIT WHO PUT IT THERE... YOU, KOROKU-SAN.
TO TELL YOU THE TRUTH, I SNUCK IN BEFORE YOU ALL CAME HERE
AND MADE SEVERAL MORE SIMILAR MARKS ABOVE THE MARK THAT WAS THERE BEFORE.
THE ORIGINAL MARK
DESIGNATED WATER LEVEL
YOU DUG YOUR OWN GRAVE, YOU CRIMINAL!
I'LL... NO, I WILL USE THE SUPER CAPTURE TECHNIQUE THAT HAS BEEN PASSED DOWN IN MY FAMILY FOR GENERATIONS TO CAPTURE YOU, KOROKU!
UKKI... I WILL LIVE UP TO YOUR EXPECTATIONS!!
I WILL USE THIS ROPE TO-
BUHII ?!

KOROKU!
WAIT!
ゴロゴロ
AAAA AAAAAAAAH
TOUJUUROU-SAN!!
KOROKU-SAN!!
LET GO OF ME!
!!

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ハヴァア
UWHAAAA ?!
IKUTAROU-DONOOO?!

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OSHIGERINANSHI

CHAPTER 06
VOLUME 1

TRANSLATOR
GOTTERSTECHEN007

CLEANER REDRAWER
NJMANGA

PROOF-
GOTTERSTECHEN007

TYPESETTING
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